

REMARKS

Status Summary

Claims 1-21 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-21 presently stand rejected. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 1, 7, 14, and 19-21 have been amended as set forth above. Support for the amendments to claims 1, 7, 14, and 19-21 may be found throughout the present application, particularly, at lines 7-18, of page 13.

Response to 35 U.S.C. § 101 Claim Rejection

Claims 1-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Patent Office asserts that the claims are not directed towards a result that is a practical application, result, concrete, useful, and tangible.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed subject matter is directed to a result that has a practical application. In one example of an application, a system recited by the claims may be used for specifying search criteria for searching a database of biological information, obtaining search results based on the search criteria, and presenting the search results for a user. In another example, the claimed subject matter may be used to automatically create joins between relational database tables without a user or client having previous knowledge of a database schema. In this example, an SQL search can be run on the relational database based upon the joins for obtaining search results for a user. Thus, at least one practical application of the claimed subject matter includes providing a system for facilitating a search of a relational database for obtaining search results for a user.

Further, claim 1 has been amended to recite “wherein said server computer runs a structured query language (SQL) search on said relational database based upon said joins for obtaining search results for a user”. Thus, claim 1 recites that the SQL search on the relational database has the use of obtaining search results for a user. Applicant respectfully submits that a “useful, concrete, and tangible” result of

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the operation of the features of claim 1 is obtaining search results for a user. Further, the claim recites an application of obtaining search results for a user. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 should be withdrawn because the claim recites a result that is “useful, concrete, and tangible”.

Claim 7 has been amended to recite “a joins module configured to determine how to join said tables of biological data in order to provide the results of said query to a user”. Thus, claim 7 recites that the joins module is configured to provide results of a query to a user. Applicant respectfully submits that a “useful, concrete, and tangible” result of the operation of the features of claim 7 is obtaining search results for a user. Further, the claim recites an application of providing search results to a user. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 should be withdrawn because the claim recites a result that is “useful, concrete, and tangible”.

Claim 14 has been amended to recite “sending said SQL statement to said Relational Database for obtaining search results for a user”. Thus, claim 14 recites a step of sending a SQL statement to a relational database for obtaining search results for a user. Applicant respectfully submits that a “useful, concrete, and tangible” result of the steps recited by claim 14 is obtaining search results for a user. Further, the claim recites an application of obtaining search results for a user. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 should be withdrawn because the claim recites a result that is “useful, concrete, and tangible”.

Similar to claim 1, claim 19 has been amended to recite “wherein said server computer runs a structured query language (SQL) search on said relational database based upon said joins for obtaining search results for a user”. Thus, claim 19 recites that the SQL search on the relational database has the use of obtaining search results for a user. Applicant respectfully submits that a “useful, concrete, and tangible” result of the operation of the features of claim 19 is obtaining search results for a user. Further, the claim recites an application of obtaining search results for a user. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 19 under 35

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U.S.C. § 101 should be withdrawn because the claim recites a result that is “useful, concrete, and tangible”.

Claim 20 has been amended to recite “optimized joins being incorporated into said search statement by said search module for use in obtaining search results for a user”. Thus, claim 20 recites that optimized joins are incorporated into a search statement for use in obtaining search results for a user. Applicant respectfully submits that a “useful, concrete, and tangible” result of the operation of the features of claim 20 is obtaining search results for a user. Further, the claim recites an application of obtaining search results for a user. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 should be withdrawn because the claim recites a result that is “useful, concrete, and tangible”.

Claim 21 has been amended to recite “sending said SQL statement to said relational database for obtaining search results for a user”. Thus, claim 21 recites that an SQL statement is sent to a relational database for obtaining search results for a user. Applicant respectfully submits that a “useful, concrete, and tangible” result of the operation of the features of claim 21 is obtaining search results for a user. Further, the claim recites an application of obtaining search results for a user. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection of claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 should be withdrawn because the claim recites a result that is “useful, concrete, and tangible”.

Further, claim 21 is further rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claim recites “computer-readable medium”. The U.S. Patent Office considers a “computer-readable medium” to be non-statutory subject matter. Further, the Patent Office suggested replacing the phrase “computer-readable medium” with “computer-readable storage medium”. Claim 21 has been amended as suggested by the Patent Office. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection of claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 should be withdrawn because the claim now recites “computer-readable storage medium”.

In view of the above discussion, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-21. Allowance of these claims is also requested.

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CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in proper condition for allowance, and an early notice to such effect is earnestly solicited.

If any small matter should remain outstanding after the Patent Examiner has had an opportunity to review the above Remarks, the Patent Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned patent attorney in order to resolve these matters and avoid the issuance of another Official Action.

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DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

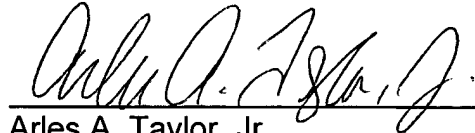
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with the filing of this correspondence to Deposit Account No. 50-0426.

Respectfully submitted,

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